JPRS 78588

23 July 1991

# Worldwide Report

## EPIDEMIOLOGY

No. 239

FBIS FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

## NOTE

JPRS publications contain information primarily from foreign newspapers, periodicals and books, but also from news agency transmissions and broadcasts. Materials from foreign-language sources are translated; those from English-language sources are transcribed or reprinted, with the original phrasing and other characteristics retained.

Headlines, editorial reports, and material enclosed in brackets [] are supplied by JPRS. Processing indicators such as [Text] or [Excerpt] in the first line of each item, or following the last line of a brief, indicate how the original information was processed. Where no processing indicator is given, the information was summarized or extracted.

Unfamiliar names rendered phonetically or transliterated are enclosed in parentheses. Words or names preceded by a question mark and enclosed in parentheses were not clear in the original but have been supplied as appropriate in context. Other unattributed parenthetical notes within the body of an item originate with the source. Times within items are as given by source.

The contents of this publication in no way represent the policies, views or attitudes of the U.S. Government.

## PROCUREMENT OF PUBLICATIONS

JPRS publications may be ordered from the National Technical Information Service, Springfield, Virginia 22161. In ordering, it is recommended that the JPRS number, title, date and author, if applicable, of publication be cited.

Current JPRS publications are announced in Government Reports Announcements issued semi-monthly by the National Technical Information Service, and are listed in the Monthly Catalog of U.S. Government Publications issued by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

Indexes to this report (by keyword, author, personal names, title and series) are available from Bell & Howell, Old Mansfield Road, Wooster, Ohio 44691.

Correspondence pertaining to matters other than procurement may be addressed to Joint Publications Research Service, 1000 North Glebe Road, Arlington, Virginia 22201.

JPRS 78588

23 July 1981

# WORLDWIDE REPORT

## EPIDEMIOLOGY

No. 239

## CONTENTS

### HUMAN DISEASES

ANGOLA

Briefs
Health Care Improvements 1

AUSTRALIA

Malaria Cases Show Increase, Risk Gaining in North
(THE AGE, 12 Jun 81) ..... 2

Briefs
Water Contamination 3
New Encephalitis Case 3

BRAZIL

Briefs
Yellow Fever Outbreak 4

CUBA

Reportage on Dengue in Cuba
(CANA, 24 Jun 81, Editorial Report) ..... 5

Nationwide Epidemic, by Lionel Martin
Coverage of Outbreak

Drive Against Dengue Fever Described
(THE CEYLON DAILY NEWS, 30 Jun 81) ..... 7

Briefs
Dengue Death Toll Rise 8

GUYANA

Briefs
Water Projects 9

INDIA

South Patna Reported To Be in Grip of Jaundice
(PATRIOT, 24 Jun 81) ..... 10

Officials Concerned Over Malaria in West Bengal
(THE STATESMAN, 12 Jun 81) ..... 11

Briefs
Punjab Jaundice Deaths 12
Fight Against Turberculosis 12
Bombay Conjuctivitis Cases 12
Rajasthan Enteritis Epidemic 12

IRAN

Ministry of Health Warns Nation on Cholera
(KAYHAN, 22 Jun 81) ..... 13

ISRAEL

Briefs
Malaria Threat 14

JAVA

Briefs
Diarrhoea Epidemic 15

JORDAN

Briefs
Cholera Epidemic 16

KENYA

Briefs
Hepatitis Under Control 17

NEPAL

Briefs
Malaria in Janakpur 18

NEW ZEALAND

Farmers' Blood Samples To Aid Leptospirosis Research
(THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD, 11 Jun 81) ..... 19

PHILIPPINES

Briefs
Malaria Deaths 20

SPAIN

Briefs
Toxic Pneumonia Deaths 21

SRI LANKA

Briefs
Malaria Mosquito 22
Cholera Cases in Trinco 22

TANZANIA

Briefs
Measles Reportedly on Decline 23

UGANDA

Briefs
Typhoid Epidemic 24
Typhoid Epidemic Denied 24

ZAIRE

Briefs
Measles Epidemic 25

## ANIMAL DISEASES

WORLDWIDE AFFAIRS

Development of Foot-and-Mouth Disease Vaccine Welcomed
(THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY, 27 Jun 81) ..... 26

GUYANA

Briefs
Animal Disease Survey 27

TANZANIA

Briefs
Rabies Outbreak in Dar es Salaam 28

PLANT DISEASES AND INSECT PESTS

INDIA

Briefs
Punjab Wheat Diseased 29

NEPAL

Briefs
Wheat Affected by Disease 30

NEW ZEALAND

Northland Pine Forest Disorder Attributed to Fungi
(THE PRESS, 2 Jun 81) ..... 31

Aerial Surveys Find Additional Diseased Pine Trees
(THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD, 16 Jun 81) ..... 32

PHILIPPINES

Plant Disease Threatens Coconut Industry
(Estrella M. Santos; BULLETIN TODAY, 27 Jun 81) ..... 33

VIETNAM

Briefs
Haiphong Insect Control 35
Hai Hung Pests 35
Ha Nam Ninh Pests 35

## BRIEFS

HEALTH CARE IMPROVEMENTS--Health is a sector that will benefit this year from the national plan approved by the People's Assembly at its legislative session last March. The number of hospital beds will increase to 14,374, a 10 percent increase over 1980. Additionally, the sum of 566 million kwanzas will be earmarked essentially for the construction of a health center in Catete (province of Bengo) and for equipping the old Maternity Hospital in Luanda, besides other construction operations in various localities throughout Angola. The number of physicians will be 734 (78 more than last year) and it is estimated that 53 new physicians and 1,996 paramedics will be trained. [Excerpt] [Bissau NO PINTCHA in Portuguese 17 Jun 81 p 8]

CSO: 5400

MALARIA CASES SHOW INCREASE, RISK GAINING IN NORTH

Melbourne THE AGE in English 12 Jun 81 p 5

[Text]

The incidence of malaria is increasing in Australia, but there is little danger of contracting the disease in Victoria.

Figures supplied yesterday by Dr Douglas Rankin, an epidemiologist with the Victorian Health Commission, show that malaria cases in Victoria have risen sharply: from 46 reported cases in 1978 to 80 in 1979, 102 last year and 45 cases so far this year.

Dr Rankin said that many of those affected had caught the disease in Papua New Guinea.

He said the climate in the north of Australia was also favorable for the breeding of mosquitoes which could bite malaria carriers and transmit the disease to other people.

However, these mosquitoes did not flourish in the Victorian climate, so the chance of the disease being spread was slight, he said.

The number of reported cases of malaria in Australia has increased greatly over the past decade: 234 cases in 1970, 273 in 1978, 474 in 1979 and 620 last year.

The Federal Government is concerned about the risk of the disease being re-established in the north of Australia.

In the Federal Parliament yesterday Senator Peter Baume, representing the Minister for Health, said the Government was doing many things to prevent the re-establishment of malaria.

He said an efficient vigilance system was operating in northern Australia. All diagnosed cases were notified to a central register and all cases were watched, Senator Baume said.

CSO: 5400/7561

## BRIEFS

WATER CONTAMINATION--The South Australian Government yesterday moved to quell alarm created when a senior Labor MP claimed dangerous levels of cancer-causing chemicals were contaminating the State's water supply. The Minister for Water Resources, Mr Arnold, agreed that unusually high levels of trihalomethanes had been detected and that these chemicals had been shown in US tests to cause cancer in animals. However, Mr Arnold said that at this stage there was no evidence to show there was any danger to people who drank the water. Mr Arnold's assurance follows claims by the South Australian Opposition's spokesman on health, Dr John Cornwall, that people were being endangered by trihalomethane levels of up to 688 parts per million, which compare with the recommended safe level of 100ppm set in the US. Mr Arnold said South Australia had a high level of the chemicals partly because of the need to use large doses of chlorine to combat the risk of diseases. Dr Cornwall was accused of being "alarmist" and "highly irresponsible" in his claims. [By Peter Blunden] [Text] [Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 11 Jun 81 p 3]

NEW ENCEPHALITIS CASE--Another case of Australian arbovirus encephalitis, a potentially brain-damaging disease, has been reported to the Public Health Department. This brings to eight the number of cases identified in WA this year. The latest victim, a 28-year-old man who had been working in Goldsworthy, was admitted to Royal Perth Hospital on April 30. He was discharged two weeks ago. Earlier this year the Minister for Health, Mr Young, said that unusually heavy rains in the Kimberleys and Pilbara this season had helped to spread the virus farther south than ever before. The virus is spread by mosquitoes. No vaccine is available for the disease at the moment and the only prevention is by mosquito control. [Text] [Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 13 Jun 81 p 27]

CSO: 5400/7561

## BRIEFS

YELLOW FEVER OUTBREAK--The outbreak of urban yellow fever recorded in Rio de Janeiro, Bahia and Rio Grande do Norte states has not yet been eliminated, despite the disinfection works being carried out by SUCAM [Superintendency for Public Health Campaigns] in the contaminated areas, Health Minister Waldyr Arcoverde admitted yesterday, although he gave assurances that the danger of an epidemic has been eliminated. [Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 1 Jul 81 p 16]

CSO: 5400/2154

REPORTAGE ON DENGUE IN CUBA

## Nationwide Epidemic

FL241447 Bridgetown CANA in English 1425 GMT 24 Jun 81

[Article by Lionel Martin]

[Excerpts] Havana, 24 Jun (CANA-REUTER)--Health officials in Cuba, faced with a nationwide epidemic of dengue fever, are leading an intensified campaign to wipe out the mosquito which transmits the disease. There has been no official estimate of the number of cases, but an informed Cuban source said about a dozen children had died of the disease after hemorrhaging from the mouth or ears.

A health ministry official said the city and province of Havana had been hardest hit, but the disease had been reported throughout Cuba.

One informed source said many Cuban doctors were convinced that both the 1977 [dengue] epidemic and the present outbreak were started by Cubans returning from military or civilian service in Africa. Rumors that several towns had been put in quarantine and closed to all visitors were dispelled by a visit to some of the towns by a REUTER correspondent. Life was continuing normally, though local government clinics reported numerous cases of dengue fever. A health ministry official said there would be no point in closing affected areas as the fever was not contagious.

Anti-mosquito measures have become commonplace in Cuban cities, with public health workers periodically carrying "smoke generators," whose spray kills mosquitos, through the streets. Every home in Havana has to have a tab pasted behind the kitchen door showing that a health inspector has checked the premises for potential aedes aegypti breeding places.

Yellow fever has been wiped out in Cuba, but the carrier mosquito survives to spread the less deadly dengue fever. The present campaign is being carried out by state institutions and mass organizations under the aegis of the public health ministry.

## Coverage of Outbreak

FL051830 [Editorial Report] Cuban sources were first heard to report the appearance of a "virus" in the 0000 GMT Havana Television newscast on 12 June. No other mention was made until 15 June when Havana Radio

reported on a Havana province meeting of health officials to discuss a campaign against the aedes aegypti mosquito. Since 16 June both Havana radio and television have been carrying daily reports on the implementation of the campaign, including interviews with health officials and the citizenry about their activities to eliminate the mosquito and its breeding places. The emphasis has been on the agent of the disease with the only other mention of the virus being on 18 June when dengue was confirmed. The reports mention the activities to assist in the campaign organized by the Federation of Cuban Women, the Association of Small Farmers, the Committee for the Defense of the Revolution, the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions and other mass organizations and the community is urged to get involved.

Radio spots of less than 1 minute duration are played in between regular programming introduced by buzzing sounds, music similar to the flight of the bumblebee or a popular song whose refrain is "watch out, it'll bite you!". Instructions are then given about getting rid of containers with stagnant water and other mosquito breeding places and to use small bags that have been distributed containing a substance to kill mosquito larvae.

There has been occasional criticism: For instance, Havana Television at 0000 GMT on 19 June reports that the anti-mosquito drive has been described as "unsatisfactory" and lack of information blamed. Though later reports tell of the great progress the provinces are doing in eradicating the mosquito, particular mention is made of those provinces that are still lagging. Early in the campaign, state organs were also urged to be more active and quick in carrying out the instructions of the public health ministry. Reports have continued of provincial meetings to analyze the work accomplished and pledge conclusion of the campaign as early as Saturday, 27 June. Latest reports still describe the work in Matanzas and Granma provinces as "unsatisfactory". The provinces that are doing well are told to do more.

CSO: 5400/2151

## DRIVE AGAINST DENGUE FEVER DESCRIBED

Colombo THE CEYLON DAILY NEWS in English 30 Jun 81 p 15

[Text] Yellow fever has been wiped out in Cuba, but the carrier mosquito survives to spread the less deadly dengue fever.

Under Cuban law, officials shown to be incompetent — in this case by failing to eliminate the mosquitoes and their breeding places — are liable to be fined.

In their forefront of the drive are the 5.5 million members of the committees for the defence of the revolution more than half the country's population, who are grouped on every city block and in every rural area.

The parameters of the campaign was City-wide, 30 kilometres (18 miles) from Havana, where half the population of 20,000, all members of the committees, turned out last Sunday to eliminate every breeding place in the town.

At the same time local health officials — members of the Federation of Cuban Women and 800 women members of the recently established people's militia — inspected 15,000 homes in and around the town to make sure the job was done properly.

In places where fresh water cannot be covered or removed, the Health Ministry has ordered the use of a granular chemical which is harmless to humans but destroys the mosquito larvae in the water and remains active for several months.

Health workers are also spraying residential and other districts with a Japanese chemical to kill adult mosquitoes.

Meanwhile newspapers, television and radio have been carrying educational material on the reproduction cycle of the mosquito in simple terms they explain that the pests love to nest in fresh still water.

In order to lay the eggs the female has to suck human blood. It is that blood in contaminated by the yellow fever virus the mosquito becomes a carrier for the rest of its life between one and three months.

The chief symptoms of dengue are high fever, headache, aches around the eyes, joint and in the muscles and often a rash similar to that produced by German measles.

The fever drops after three or four days and the disease runs its course in about a week, leaving patients, according to a Cuban health official "in a state of depression and fatigue".

One preventive measure suggested by doctors is to daub mosquito repellent on the exposed parts of the body but many doctors now suggest that Vitamin B—1 taken internally, produces a slight body smell which repels the mosquito — (Reuter).

CSO: 5400/4945

## BRIEFS

DENGUE DEATH TOLL RISE--The Ministry of Public Health announced today that the intensive campaign to eradicate the aedes aegypti mosquito, carrier of the dengue disease, will continue throughout the country. Over 160,000 dengue cases have been reported so far, mainly in Havana City, Havana, Holguin, Camaguey and Cienfuegos provinces. A total of 58 deaths has been reported. [Summary] [FL082357 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 8 Jul 81]

CSO: 5400/2136

## BRIEFS

WATER PROJECTS--The Ministry of Environment and Water Supply has received commitment of financial support of UNICEF of approximately $500 000 (US) and the technical cooperation of PAHO/WHO. It is in the process of preparing a project proposal for providing potable water for five communities Hog Island, Ridgetown, Hague, Mahdia and Linepath. A series of meetings and field visits involving the Regional Council chairmen, the Minister and Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Environment and Water Supply along with representatives of GUYWA, UNICEF and PAHO/WHO ensued. [Excerpt] [Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 5 Jun 81 p 13]

CSO: 5400/7560

SOUTH PATNA REPORTED TO BE IN GRIP OF JAUNDICE

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 24 Jun 81 p 4

[Text] Patna, June 23. While a committee set up by Bihar Legislative Council is still probing the causes of the outbreak of jaundice in Kankarbagh colony of Patna about two years ago, the whole of south Patna, including Kankarbagh colony, is again in the grip of jaundice in an epidemic form.

So far it has claimed more than a dozen lives including the life of the only son of a senior journalist in Patna.

The State Health Minister has also admitted that jaundice has claimed nine lives so far in Patna town.

According to the health department sources, 268 persons are down with jaundice in the city--the largest number of them being in Kankarbagh colony. According to data given by the health department, the number of jaundice patients undergoing treatment in different dispensaries in Patna is Kankarbagh colony--116, New Gardanibagh --7, Gardinar Road--4, Gardanibagh--3, Danapur--3, Patna city--32, Municipal Corporation Dispensary 6 and Barh Hospital--1.

According to official sources supply of contaminated water is said to be the reason for the epidemic.

When jaundice broke out in Kankarbagh colony about two years ago, a member of the legislative council had alleged that sewerage and water supply pipes had been laid close to each other. The public health department later separated the two pipes at several places but it seems that in many areas the same situation continues causing contamination of water.

At a high-level meeting held here yesterday, it was decided to arrange 20 beds separately in Patna Medical College Hospital for jaundice patients where expert treatment could be given round the clock.

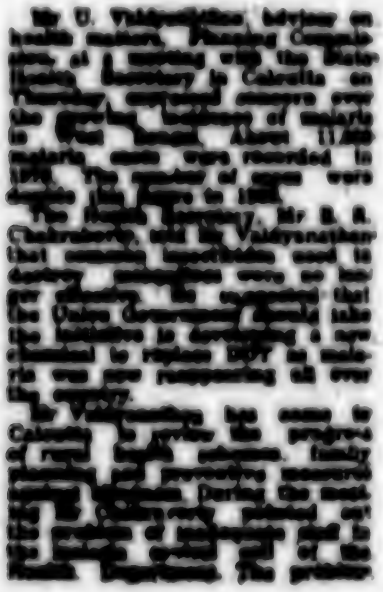
Those present at the meeting included health commissioner, chief engineer of PHED, civil surgeon of Patna and other concerned officials.

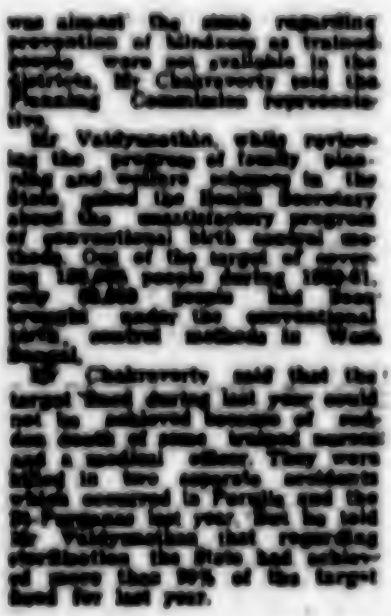
CSO: 5400/7095

OFFICIALS CONCERNED OVER MALARIA IN WEST BENGAL

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 12 Jun 81 p 16

[Text]





CSO: 5400/7090

## BRIEFS

PUNJAB JAUNDICE DEATHS--Moga, June 13 (PTI)--Jaundice has claimed three lives here in recent months. In all 242 cases have been detected till yesterday, according to official estimates. The Punjab health department has deputed 14 survey teams with seven doctors to detect jaundice cases in the town. [Text] [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 14 Jun 81 p 4]

FIGHT AGAINST TUBERCULOSIS--Pune, June 18 (PTI): Inspite of revolutionary developments on the medicinal front, the tuberculosis eradication programme in the country had not shown any appreciable results and at present there were ten million TB patients, 2.5 million of whom were positive cases, Dr. V. M. Bahulkar, chairman of the Poona district anti-tuberculosis association, said here today. The association, he told pressmen, was organising various programmes this year to mark the centenary of the discovery of the tubercle bacillus by Robert Koch in 1882. According to Lt. Col. Kewal Krishna, organising secretary of the association, the incidence of the disease was more in the lower income group in which 12 out of 1,000 persons were found to be affected by TB. A slum area in Bandra, a suburb in Bombay, had shown the highest ratio of 50 cases per thousand, he said. [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 19 Jun 81 p 6]

BOMBAY CONJUCTIVITIS CASES--Bombay, June 19 (UNI)--Over 22,300 cases of conjunctivitis have been recorded in the metropolis during the week ending 17 June, according to municipal commissioner D. M. Sukthankar. Mr Sukthankar told newsmen here today that since the disease had struck the city and its suburbs on 1 May, the figure had gone upto nearly 93,000. In spite of the measures taken to combat the disease it had not shown any decline, he said. The Maharashtra Government-run Haffkine Institute, which had been seized with the problem of isolating the virus, had not yet announced the result, Mr Sukthankar added. [Text] [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 21 Jun 81 p 5]

RAJASTHAN ENTERITIS EPIDEMIC--Jaipur, June 23--Gastroenteritis in Rajasthan has claimed 93 lives during the last two months. According to official sources only in two districts of Jhalawad and Kota, where the incidence of gastroenteritis is the highest, the toll was 62. The epidemic is rampant in the 11 districts of the State where 1882 cases have been registered. In Jhalawad 34 people died out of 753 afflicted with the disease while in Kota out of 360 cases 28 have died in past two months. The main reason for the maximum number of cases in Jhalawad and Kota was number of group marriages in recent days and the quality of food stuff served. Keeping in view the seriousness of the situation the Epidemic Act has been imposed in Jhalawad, sources said. [Text] [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 24 Jun 81 p 4)

CSO: 5400/7096

MINISTRY OF HEALTH WARNS NATION ON CHOLERA

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 22 Jun 81 p 16

[Text] The Ministry of Health has issued a warning about Asiatic cholera and informs that according to the latest statistics, 26 cases of Asiatic cholera have been registered throughout the country.

In relation to this information, the office of public relations and guidance of the Ministry of Health has announced that, based on the latest statistics, a total of 8,398 patients suffering from severe diarrhea and vomiting have been admitted to health centers throughout the country and that out of them, 26 cases of cholera were registered and are now being treated. The same statistics show 11 cases presenting symptoms of cholera have been registered in Sistan va Baluchestan, with Tehran coming next with 6 cases. The Ministry of Health also emphatically asks dear countrymen to observe the following health principles in order to stop contagion, and that at the first symptoms of the disease, they should immediately go to the nearest medical center of the Ministry of Health in order not to endanger their own and other people's lives:

1. Raw fruits and vegetables should be properly washed and disinfected before use.

2. Only purified water should be used; when no such water is available, it should be boiled and used when cool.

3. Hands should be washed with soap after using the toilet and before eating.

4. Flies and other insects should be chased away from residences.

CSO: 5400/5320

## BRIEFS

MALARIA THREAT—A concentration of anopheles-type mosquitos, which are liable to cause malaria infection, was found in a wadi near Moshav Be'ar in the Jerusalem corridor. [TA062042 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1935 GMT 6 Jul 81 TA]

CSO: 5400/4743

## BRIEFS

DIARRHOEA EPIDEMIC--Djakarta, 21 June--A severe diarrhoea epidemic that has swept the Bandung District of West Java has spread to adjacent Majalengka District and claimed eight deaths this week, reports said here today. Over 500 people, mostly children under five, have within the week been admitted at hospitals and clinics for emergency treatment against the cholera-type disease, the reports said. Attributed by health officials to unsanitary living conditions, the disease, known as "muntaber" to denote the attendant heavy vomiting, has been an off-and-on occurrence in many parts of the country. --NAB/AFP [Text] [Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 23 Jun 81 p 6]

CSO: 5400/4945

## BRIEFS

CHOLERA EPIDEMIC--Prime Minister Mudar Badran today presided over an extraordinary meeting of the Higher Permanent Committee for Public Safety attended by all its members, governors and directors of police departments in the kingdom. The prime minister announced that some 16 cholera cases have been located in various parts of Amman proper and the suburbs. He added that three persons have died of the disease. The prime minister requested the governors to use the authority vested in them by the martial law administration and take all necessary measures to contain and root out this epidemic. He asked for the formation of emergency committees and for the creation of an emergency operation room at the Directorate of Public Security comprising representatives of the concerned ministries and departments. He also asked all executive authorities to cooperate with the Ministry of Health and the Armed Forces Medical Services in order to assist all victims and safeguard the lives of citizens. [Excerpt] [JN061659 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 6 Jul 81]

CSO: 5400/2152

## BRIEFS

HEPATITIS UNDER CONTROL--The eastern provincial medical officer, Dr (Oyoo), has announced that the ministries of health and agriculture have put hepatitis under control after killing several people in Machakos and Kitui districts [sentence as heard]. Dr (Oyoo) said in a press statement that the disease was caused by fungi found in cereals like maize, sorghum and legumes, like beans, in the district. He said that the areas most affected by the disease were (Masinga), Yatta Division, Kathonzweni, Makueni and Makindu, along the Athi River. He advised the people in the areas to construct stores with proper ventilation and stop storing food when it is not completely dry as the fungi mould favor damp conditions. [Excerpts] [EA050312 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 1 Jul 81]

CSO: 4700/168

## BRIEFS

MALARIA IN JANAKPUR--Janakpurdham, June 18--Many people are reported suffering from malaria accompanied by high fever in Dhanasha, Mahottari, Sarlahi and Sindhuli districts of Janakpur Zone, reports RSS. According to reports received here those suffering from the disease include people of different age groups and the temperature in some of them has risen up to 106 degrees making them unconscious. The disease is mostly centered in the villages bordering India and in the vicinity of the Mahendra Highway, Chure, Kamala river and Marin rivulet. Meanwhile, the Malaria Eradication Organisation Office has started spraying anti mosquito medicines, examining blood, providing medicines and collecting the names and addresses of the patients. However, no death from the disease has been reported. [Text] [Kathmandu THE RISING NEPAL in English 10 Jun 81 p 2]

CSO: 5400

FARMERS' BLOOD SAMPLES TO AID LEPTOSPIROSIS RESEARCH

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 11 Jun 81 p 8

[Text]

Farmers will be able to help research into leptospirosis by donating blood at the Mystery Creek field days this week.

The Health Department and Massey University expect to gather several hundred blood specimens.

"We are studying how many farming people have got immunity to leptospirosis and have had the disease," said Dr J. H. Pomeroy, Hamilton's deputy medical officer of health.

"A study in Manawatu found 34 per cent of people who milk cows may be immune from the disease because they have already been infected, but we expect the percentage to be higher in the Waikato.

"We also want to know whether a person can contract the disease more than once from the same strain."

CSO: 5400

BRIEF

MALARIA DEATHS--Palauig, Zambales, June 23--Malaria has killed three farmers recently and downed most of the 300 residents of sitio Macawag, barangay Bulawen, this town. According to Engr. Fred Lorenzo, officer-in-charge of the Zambales Electric Cooperative (ZAMECO) dendrothermal project here where the male residents of this sitio are contractual workers, 95 percent of the inhabitants who showed up for blood tests conducted by the government's malaria field team were positive of malignant malaria. The barangay is about 15 kilometers from the nearest highway and about 21 kilometers from the town proper. It may be reached through rough trails where sturdy jeeps and heavier vehicles could only negotiate. The latest malaria victims, according to Lorenzo, were Romeo Arangorin, 36, married; Pedro Altares, 36, married and Delfin Mojica, 33, married. [Text] [Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 24 Jun 81 p 3]

CSO: 5400/4946

## BRIEFS

TOXIC PNEUMONIA DEATHS--Another death occurred today in Madrid as a result of toxic pneumonia. This means that two people have died today in Spain as a result of the epidemic. Sources at the Health Ministry said that the total number of people hospitalized in Spain is (71,294), 906 of whom are in Madrid where there have been 60 admissions and 34 people have been discharged. In the provinces, there have been 43 admissions and 31 people have been discharged. [Text] [Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 1400 GMT 11 Jul 81 LD]

CSO: 5400/2153

## BRIEFS

MALARIA MOSQUITO--A mosquito bite in Colombo will not cause you Malaria, instead it might cause dengue fever or filaria. This is because the malaria causing mosquito does not breed in the city, said Dr. A.N.A. Abeysundera, Superintendent of the Anti-Malaria Campaign yesterday. There are two other cities in the country where the malaria mosquito does not breed. They are Kalutara, and Galle. Dr. Abeysundera said the control of the mosquito menace in Colombo was essentially the responsibility of the Colombo Municipal Council. The AMC had no authority to do any operations in the city. Dr. Abeysundera said that a mosquito bite in the city would not cause malaria to any one. There were no malarial mosquitos in the municipal areas of Colombo, Kalutara and Galle. The mosquitos that abound in these areas were the filarial and dengue fever causing species called the Culex, and Aede types. He said these varieties bred in pools of water collected in old tyres, tins, coconut shells, blocked gutters, blocked drains and in stagnant water holes. "You can see this is essentially a man made problem" he said, and pointed out the best way to combat this menace was by keeping the environment clean. That called for co-operation of the public. He said what was needed first was a massive health education programme to impress upon the people, how essential it was to keep the environment clean. [Text] [Colombo CEYLON DAILY NEWS in English 22 Jun 81 p 1]

CHOLERA CASES IN TRINCO--Two fresh positive cases of cholera were reported from China Bay and Andankulam in the Trincomalee electorate on Saturday. Since June 1, one boy suffering from cholera died in Trincomalee. Altogether including the two recent cases six persons suffering from cholera have been undergoing treatment in the Trincomalee base hospital. In May there were six cholera deaths in Trincomalee and forty persons were treated in the Trincomalee base hospital. [Text] [Colombo SUN in English 23 Jun 81 p 3]

CSO: 5400

## BRIEFS

MEASLES REPORTEDLY ON DECLINE--The Ministry of Health has appealed to mothers with children aged between nine months and five years to have them vaccinated against measles. The appeal was made in Dar es Salaam yesterday by a medical specialist incharge of maternal and child health services in the country, Ndugu Salim Hashim Rajabu in response to the Ministry's campaign against measles launched last month. Ndugu Rajabu said he was convinced that measles was on the decline in the country. He cited 1978 where he said statistics showed that there were 85,000 cases against 66,000 in the following year. Last year the figure slumped to 56,000. [Excerpts] [Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 21 Jun 81 p 1]

CSO: 5400/5209

## BRIEFS

TYPHOID EPIDEMIC--Kampala, Sunday--At least 1,000 people are suffering from Typhoid in Kampala and the number is growing daily as the epidemic spreads doctors said yesterday. "If there were anything like this in New York the whole city would be put under quarantine," said William Parsons, an American doctor working at Kampala's overcrowded and ill-equipped Mulago hospital. "In this situation there is very little we can do." Typhoid fever is an infectious disease spread by contaminated food or drink. Dr. Parsons said the entire United States had only 400 typhoid cases last year. A United Nations Childrens' Fund (UNICEF) health worker Brendan O Brian, said Uganda's once excellent sanitation and health care services had broken down during the chaotic eight-year rule of dictator Idi Amin which ended two years ago. The current epidemic is a classic example of what happens when a health care system breaks down, he told reporters.--(REUTER) [Text] [Colombo THE CEYLON DAILY NEWS in English 29 Jun 81 p 5]

TYPHOID EPIDEMIC DENIED--The minister of health, Dr Mkwasibwe, has dismissed as baseless reports emanating from foreign media to the effect that the outbreak of typhoid in Kampala City has reached epidemic proportions. The minister, who was addressing the Communicable Disease Control Advisory Committee at Mulago Hospital yesterday, reiterated that the Ministry of Health has enough qualified manpower and drugs to deal with any medical situation. The committee reviewed the water and sewerage situation, (?food) handling and the promotion of health activities within the city of Kampala and the country at large. The committee agreed that the situation is within controllable limits. It has also observed that the water system in Kampala City is likely to be improved within the next 6 months when the supply is expected to have doubled. It has, however, emphasized that water drawn from any source at the present moment must be boiled for drinking purposes. The committee further advised the general public in Kampala City to refrain from drinking traditional (?brews) and juice made up of cold water which are likely to have been diluted with unboiled and contaminated water. [Excerpt] [LD041550 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 4 Jul 81]

CSO: 5400/2152

## BRIEFS

MEASLES EPIDEMIC--Tshela, 3 Jul (AZAP)--A measles epidemic has broken out in the Tshela area and several children have died from it. The Voice of Zaire Regional Station in Matadi, which gave this information it received from the senior medical officer in Tshela area, citizen Mayemba, did not give any details on the issue. According to officials of the general vaccination program (PEV) in Matadi, who have sent a large consignment of anti-measles vaccine to the area, it is difficult to determine the causes and seriousness of the epidemic. The inspectorate division of the ministry of public health is examining ways of stopping the epidemic as rapidly as possible. [Text] [Kinshasa AZAP in French 1250 GMT 3 Jul 81 AB]

CSO: 5400/5202

DEVELOPMENT OF FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE VACCINE WELCOMED

Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 27 Jun 81 p 6

[Text]

**LONDON, 19 June—Livestock-producing countries today warmly welcomed the development in the United States of a revolutionary vaccine that offers hope for the eventual elimination of foot and mouth disease.**

Agriculture experts in France, New Zealand, Australia and other countries worried by the threat posed by the disease said they would be pressing Washington for more details of the vaccine, produced by recombinant DNA technology or gene-splicing.

A key question is whether it can made available at a cost that would make it practical for farmers. A spokesman at the Institute of Veterinary Services in Paris said the cost was likely to be a major obstacle.

US Agriculture Secretary John Block announced the new vaccine yesterday, saying it could increase the world's meat supply and save billions of dollars. He said the form of genetic engineering used involves inserting a single gene or small series of genes from one organism into another.

Foot and mouth is a highly contagious sickness of cloven-footed animals. The major areas free of it—North and Central America, Australia, New Zealand and Britain—insist on the slaughter of all animals infected or exposed to the disease.

Block said the vaccine is safe and effective since it cannot produce the disease in a vaccinated animal because only a segment of the virus is used, not the whole virus.

Present vaccines used in France and many countries outside Europe, particularly Argentina, carry the risk of leaving latent foot-and-mouth disease in vaccinated animals, experts said.—*NAB/Reuter*

CSO: 4000/4945

## BRIEFS

ANIMAL DISEASE SURVEY--A three-man team from the Animal disease Prevention, Control and Eradication section of the Ministry of Agriculture yesterday launched the first phase of a countrywide survey aimed at identifying animal diseases prevalent in the country on the West Coast, Demerara. The survey which includes the collection of blood samples primarily from cattle and swine will last for a week. [Text] [Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 16 Jun 81 p 9]

CSO: 5400/7560

## BRIEFS

RABIES OUTBREAK IN DAR ES SALAAM--The Dar es Salaam City Council starts a campaign tomorrow to vaccinate all dogs and cats as a measure against rabies which has broken out in the city. A statement released by the Council yesterday called on all pet owners to take their animals to special vaccinating centres--at Shaaban Robert School, Diamond Jubilee, TSPCA, the Kariakoo Party Office, Msimbazi Centre, Buguruni Police Station and the Party office at Gerezani. [Text] [Dar es Salaam SUNDAY NEWS in English 21 Jun 81 p 1]

CSO: 5400/5209

## BRIEFS

PUNJAB WHEAT DISEASED--New Delhi, June 11: A report in a local daily that 70 per cent of the wheat procured in Punjab was affected by "karnal bunt", a fungi disease, is described as highly exaggerated by the Union food secretary, Mr. B. C. Gangopadhyaya. He told a group of newsmen today that "karnal bunt" was a soil-borne disease and it was not contagious. It was not toxic and an incidence of one per cent was quite normal. Mr. Gangopadhyaya said the government had taken no decision to import foodgrains. There were enough food stocks with the government to last a year. [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 12 Jun 81 p 10]

CSO: 5400/7089

## BRIEFS

WHEAT AFFECTED BY DISEASE--Kathmandu, June 21--The Agriculture Department has recommended cultivation of some other variety wheat as the R.R.-21 wheat has been afflicted by plant disease with a decline in yield, reports RSS. Meanwhile, the department has launched a long range plan concerning development of other varieties of wheat to resolve the problem, the agriculture information branch said. Under the short-range programme U.P. 262 variety wheat will be cultivated in areas having irrigation facilities and up to the altitude of 5,000 ft. of the four n.l. 30 variety will be cultivated in terai and h.d. 1982 variety in the terai of central and western development region. [Text] [Kathmandu THE RISING NEPAL in English 22 Jun 81 p 2]

CSO: 5400

NORTHLAND PINE FOREST DISORDER ATTRIBUTED TO FUNGI

Christchurch THE PRESS in English 2 Jun 81 p 25

[Text]

PA — Rotorua

Rotorua Forest Research Institute pathologists are now almost certain that the pine forest disorder in Northland has been caused by fungi.

The head of the company's research team, Dr G. R. Sweet, said it was difficult to prove this theory, but tests were now under way and results should be available late this month.

Dr Sweet said it was usual for pine needles on the lower parts of a tree to die through lack of sunlight and to be attacked by fungi. In the Northland trees, however, the pathologists believe particular weather conditions have encouraged the fungi to attack the healthy needles higher on the tree.

"We think the humid and warm conditions throughout the summer have allowed the fungi to attack the healthy needles instead of only the dying needles usually affected," he said.

A far greater amount of fungi was found on the trees in question than would have been normally expected.

"The probability that this is the cause is high. We are attempting to simulate the weather conditions in the F.R.I. artificial climate rooms to demonstrate this theory."

Two other less likely theories are also being considered by the investigating team. The first is that some sort of pollution has damaged the trees.

"We have followed this theory right through and are unable to tie it to any known pollutant. There are still two analyses to come in, but this theory is unlikely," Dr Sweet said.

The second is that some unknown disease has caused the disorder.

"That is the one we have obviously given most attention. We have made all the pathological tests and can find no evidence to support this. We still cannot totally discount it but I would put it at less than a 1 per cent chance," Dr Sweet said.

CSO: 5400

## AERIAL SURVEYS FIND ADDITIONAL DISEASED PINE TREES

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 16 Jun 81 p 3

[Text]

From Anne Wellington

Aerial surveys of pine forests in Northland have found three more small spots of the pine beetle and which prompted the quarantine of Puhipuhi Forest.

The conservator of forests in the Northland area, Mr Gavin Medley, said yesterday that only a few trees were affected in each area.

The beetle pest has been found in a private woodlot near Puhipuhi Forest, in Puhuti Forest and in an adjacent private woodlot.

The areas would be felled then sprayed with fenitrothion, as had previously affected areas, Mr Medley said.

"We are sure that these new spots do not indicate any spread of the condition as they are at the same stage as the first affected areas and probably occurred at the same time," he said.

Regular aerial surveys of Northland pine forests between the Hiruharama and the Mangamuka have been carried out by forest biologists since the first affected areas in and near Puhipuni Forest were found late in March.

Felling and treatment of affected areas is continuing, and quarantine measures remain in force.

The first stage of an intensive spray programme of the affected area has been completed, and the second spray will begin in two weeks.

CSO: 5400

PLANT DISEASE THREATENS COCONUT INDUSTRY

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 27 Jun 81 p 2

[Article by Estrella M. Santos]

[Text]

SCIENTISTS from the University of the Philippines at Los Baños have expressed fears that a dangerous disease, the Lethal Yellowing (LY), may adversely affect the country's coconut industry if no control or suppressal method is effected soon.

This was disclosed yesterday by Dr. Dante Benigno, UPLB professor in plant pathology, who said that this disease, found in almost all palm families, will be a serious threat to the coconut industry. The LY, caused by a pathogen like mycoplasm, had not been named until now.

Benigno disclosed that this disease was first spotted in 1955 in West Florida, destroying almost 75 percent of coconut trees in that island.

Four years later, it was again spotted in mainland Florida, destroying 375,000 trees while infecting thousand others.

What happened in Florida may likely happen in the Philippines, known to be one of the world's biggest coconut producers, if the country will continue to allow importation of ornamental plants prone to LY infection.

Benigno warned that this disease easily spreads out from one tree to the other.

• • •

WHEN the disease was spotted in Florida, reports said that it had already spread out to Southeast Asia, South Asia, Pacific Islands, Africa, North and South America.

In Southeast Asia alone, 58.5 percent or six out of ten trees are infected by LY, the scientists said.

Although LY is dangerous, it cannot be easily detected. The disease is usually transmitted by wind.

• • •

THE FIRST SIGN of LY infection is the untimely falling of young fruits, simultaneous wilting and drying of flowers, followed by the slow death, starting from top to bottom and finally blackening to death of the infected tree.

The young leaves from the lower portion of the trunk start yellowing until they become rich yellow that spreads fast to the other leaves. Even unopened leaves are also infected. The rotten leaves emit bad odor once decayed.

Even its roots are not spared. Infection starts from the end parts, killing the plant finally. It takes four months for the total destruction of the plant from the time it contracted the disease.

Recommendation for the control of this disease had been bared by Benigno.

- For the first sign of the disease, immediately cut and replant with resistant variety of coconut. Recommended varieties are Malayan Dwarf, Maypan Hybrid, at Fiji Dwarf.
- Treat infected parts with solution of oxytetracycline-HCL.

For permanent control, Benigno urged the Horticultural Society of the Philippines to make its move to recommend to the President, a total ban on the importation of palm plants that are prone to LY disease.

CSO: 5400/4946

## BRIEFS

HAIPHONG INSECT CONTROL--Agricultural cooperatives in Haiphong City are intensively spraying insecticide on 2,000 hectares of 10th-month rice seedlings--one-third of the total area--which have been affected by stem borers and brown bugs. These cooperatives have also been instructed to sow additional rice seedlings to make up for the shortfall caused by these insects. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 3 Jul 81]

HAI HUNG PESTS--Hai Hung Province has almost 3,000 ha of 10th-month rice seedlings--almost 30 percent of the total seedling area--currently ravaged by thorny worms and brown bugs. The province's vegetation protection station has sent cadres to the seriously affected districts and cooperatives to help them control the pests. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 2 Jul 81]

HA NAM NINH PESTS--Ha Nam Ninh Province has sown sufficient seed for the 10th-month rice crop. More than 500 ha of early rice seedlings in Y Yen, Vu Ban, Nam Ninh and Tam Diep districts and a number of cooperatives have been ravaged by thorny worms. Cooperative members have successfully controlled these worms by spraying insecticides. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 2 Jul 81]

CSO: 5400/4606

END

# END OF FICHE

# DATE FILMED

27 July 1981